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STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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October 13, 2006

Mr. W. Douglas Buttrey  
Chairman  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street NW  
Washington DC 20423-0001

AB-994 (Sub No. 1X)  
994X

Log: 060506-10-STB (STB Docket: AB-994 Sub 1X)  
Property: Kettle Falls International Abandonment San Poil to Danville  
Re: No Historic Properties Affected

Dear Mr. Buttrey:

Recently, the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) was contacted concerning the abovementioned action. In Washington State, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is the executive who heads DAHP. Matthew Sterner, Transportation Archaeologist, and I have reviewed the materials provided for this project by its proponent, the Kettle Falls International Railway (KFR). Our comments are based on the information available at the time of this review and on behalf of the SHPO pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR 800. In regards to the proposed abandonment we offer the following comments for the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) environmental review:

KFR conducted a Historic Structures Report on the KFR line segment proposed for abandonment between San Poil and Danville, in Ferry County Washington. Four historic resources were identified, inventoried, and determined to be not eligible for listing to the National Register of Historic Places. We have reviewed the report and concur with the findings of their consultant that no historic properties will be affected by the abandonment and subsequent demolition so long as the consultant's recommendations are followed. Specifically recommended were the following:

1. All demolition and construction activities take place on the raised bed of the current route,
2. Avoid disturbances to archaeological resources, and,
3. Access to the railroad should only occur at currently existing grade crossings

If additional information on the project becomes available, the scope of the undertaking changes, or if any archaeological resources are uncovered during this Federally obligated project, the KFR shall halt work and contact the appropriate Native American Tribes and DAHP for further consultation.

Should you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Russell Holter  
Project Compliance Reviewer  
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